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PRESS RELEASE

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Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder Outlines Proposal for Early Childhood and Parent Education Center at Harris-Stowe State University

\$11.2 Million for Capital Improvements

ST. LOUIS _ Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder met with Dr. Henry Givens today and highlighted Gov. Matt Blunt's Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative that includes more than over \$11 million in state funding for an Early Childhood and Parent Education Center at Harris-Stowe State University.

"This Initiative is strong commitment in Missouri's future and schools like Harris-Stowe State University must continue to play an important role in improving the quality of life for Missouri's children and their families" Kinder said during a visit to Harris-Stowe. "The Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative creates a legacy of learning and achievement unparalleled in our state's history and we need to support and include Harris-Stowe in any plans for the future."

Through the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, Harris-Stowe State University in St. Louis will receive \$11.2 million for construction of the school's Early Childhood and Parent Education Center. The school also would receive \$6.5 million through the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative for the CORTEX Accelerator Facility that would house companies recruited into the area or spun off from research at other St. Louis institutions. The Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative would provide \$450 million for capital improvement projects, new scholarships and endowed professorships at universities throughout the state through the sale of assets from the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority.

(MORE)

The MOHELA board recently approved the initiative that will provide \$300 million for capital improvements projects, \$100 million in student scholarships, \$30 million to enhance the growth and development of technology businesses near college campuses and \$20 million for endowed professorships at universities across the state.

“Missouri’s children are our foundation and the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative provides the bricks and mortar for that foundation” Kinder said. “We have an obligation to future generations that both Gov. Blunt and I take very seriously.”